

**Minutes of the
Idaho Nursery and Florists Advisory Committee Meeting
September 25, 2001
Conference Call**

In Attendance:

Howard E. Hughes, Hughes Greenhouses, Post Falls, ID - Committee Chairman
Bill Dial, Sterling Landscape Co., Boise, ID - Committee Member
David Jenkins, Jenkins & Son Christmas Trees, Inc., Sandpoint, ID - Committee Member
Ann Bates, Idaho Nursery Association (INA), Idaho Falls, ID – Guest
Michael E. Cooper, Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA)
Kevin Glenn, Idagold Nursery, Caldwell, ID - Committee Member
Mike Henequin, Clearwater Nursery, Sun Valley, ID – Committee Member

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Introductions were made by all of the committee members and guests.

Agenda items for this meeting were briefly identified

Old Business:

Members reviewed the minutes of the January 15, 2001 meeting. Mike Henequin moved to approve the minutes, which was then seconded by Bill Dial and approved by the committee.

Review of year 2001 Grants – Mid-Year reports

1) Dr. Robert R. Tripepi, University of Idaho, Grant, #NAC/ISDA2001-1, “Evaluating a Gravel Bed Growing System to produce Conifer Seedlings for Fall Transplanting.” Concern was expressed over the loss of the White Fir seedlings and why no replacements were made. This species will have to be dropped from the study. One member feels that the Fir is of great importance and should be put back into the evaluation. Dave Jenkins suggested that the study be continued as it is. Species comparison was not the intent of the study, but rather the effect of the gravel bed on reducing seedling stress and damage at transplant. A motion was made and approved by the committee to continue the study as it is, including the requested change in the research plan.

2) Dr. Dan Barney, University of Idaho, Grant #NAC/ISDA2001-21 (\$1,131.00), “Evaluation of Corkbark and SubAlpine Fir for Their Potential as Ornamental Nursery Stock and Christmas Trees.” This is a continuation of Grant NAC/ISDA 2000-1, originally approved February 7, 2000. Some mortality has been noted at one of the planting sites, probably due to the lack of irrigation and a dry year. There is probably enough data being gathered from the other planting sites. This is a ten-year project. The graduate student intern working on this project did give a

report at the Chapter meeting in northern Idaho. Ann Bates has copies of the report if anyone wants one. Since this is a ten years study, can we be assured that the sites will be maintained? Corkbark Fir is commonly grown without irrigation in North Idaho. Concern over losses of Corkbark at the PossAbilities' plots is a concern. SubAlpine fir losses are to be expected. The report was accepted by the committee.

3) Dr. J. D. Wulforth / Dr. R.G. Taylor, Grant #NAC/ISDA2000-4, "Economic Impact Analysis of Horticulture Industry in Idaho" Final Report. An extension was granted for the submission of the final report due to added information requested by the advisory committee. The committee decided that the University of Idaho will curate the database created by the grant. This will include the names and addresses of the survey respondents and the information collected. The committee was overall pleased with the outcome. The results have been shared with several groups such as "Buy Idaho," Idaho Food Producers and the State Legislature, etc. The ISDA has extra copies of the final report and brochures if they are needed. The committee approved the motion to accept the report.

4) Mr. Don Gerhardt, State Statistician, "Year 2000 Nursery and Greenhouse Survey" contract, "2000 Gross Value of Nursery Sales." The survey has been completed and was published in the *2000 Idaho Agricultural Statistics Report*. The final report was submitted for review. Motion to approve the report was made by Kevin Glenn and seconded by Eric Madson. The committee approved the motion to accept the report.

The research account currently contains \$82,748.00 as of September 25, 2001. Some payments need to be made to Drs. Tripepi and Barney.

Ann Bates reported that the INA committee did not get their recommendation for research projects to ISDA in time to be submitted this year. Ann would like this topic to be put on the January meeting agenda. There was a discussion about how to get researchers to submit project requests for what INA wants to be done. The INA research committee needs to meet earlier and get their proposals to the committee sooner.

New Business:

The issue of larger caliper balled and burlap trees coming from Michigan and eastern states infested with Gypsy moth and Japanese beetle shipped into Wyoming was brought to Ann's attention by a nursery in Eastern Idaho who is concerned about a possible infestation. The INA will draft a letter on the topic to the ISDA Director. The ramification of an infestation of either the Gypsy moth or Japanese beetle along the Wyoming border was discussed. The Gypsy moth is the subject of a Federal program and the Japanese beetle is not. What should the board do? Maybe the Board should address a letter regarding the industry and committee concerns to the Wyoming Department of Agriculture. There was some discussion about authority of the Board in matters like this, but a review of the law confirmed that authority does exist, at least in an

advisory nature. INA will send a letter to ISDA. The Board will draft a letter of concern to the Director of ISDA once they have seen the INA letter on the topic.

Howard Hughes was re-elected as committee Chairman. The next committee meeting will be Monday, January 14, 2002 starting a 2:00 PM at the Statehouse Inn. Ann Bates will reserve a room with the Statehouse Inn.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM.